



(Joint Inventors)  
IBM Docket No: ROC9-2000-0229-US1  
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## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As below named inventors, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **COMPUTER SYSTEM, METHOD, AND BUSINESS METHOD FOR AUTOMATING BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS**, the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

was filed on 12/23/00 as United States Application Serial No. or PCT International Application No9/746372 and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s): Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	Priority Claimed Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number	Filing Date
_____	_____

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability of this application as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

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**Prior U.S. Applications:**

Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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